

**Mythology Study Guide:** Answer the following in a complete and thorough manner. You are only required to read the sections covered in the study guide.

**Introduction to Classical Mythology**

1. When the stories of mythology were being shaped there was little distinction made between what?
2. The myths as we have them are the creation of the great poets. The first written record of Greece is what?
3. Greek mythology begins with what writer?
4. What is or contains the oldest Greek literature?
5. What does the phrase “the Greek miracle” try to express?
6. How did the Greeks make their gods?
7. Looking at a Greek statue of a god, we perceive a new idea had come into the world. With its coming what happened?
8. The sculptor watched athletes and could imagine nothing as beautiful as those strong bodies. He made what statue?
9. What is the miracle of Greek mythology?
10. What did the Greeks finally make out of the stars?
11. According to the most modern idea, a real myth has nothing to do with religion. It is an explanation of what?
12. Myths are what? The tales are what?
13. What resulted when Justice became Zeus’ companion?
14. Most of the stories of classical mythology depend chiefly on what Latin poet?

15. The list of the chief writers through whom the myths have come down is headed by what writer?
16. Who wrote the Theogeny, and what does it account?
17. Who was the greatest lyric poet of Greece?
18. The greatest writer of comedy was who?
19. What place does Herodotus have? Plato?
20. Of the Roman writers, who stands far ahead?

## **Part One: The Gods, the Creation, and the Earliest Heroes**

### **Chapter I / The Gods**

1. The Greeks did not believe that the gods created the universe. What did they believe?
2. Who were the first parents?
3. Who were their children?
4. What were the Titans often called? Who was the most important?
5. Who dethroned Cronus and seized power?
6. Who were the other notable Titans?
7. List at least 5 facts about each of the following Olympians. Place the Roman name in parentheses. Include information about parentage, symbolic meanings, symbols, typical behaviors, etc.

Zeus (                      )

Hera (                      )

Poseidon ( )

Hades ( )

Pallas Athena ( )

Phoebus Apollo ( )

Artemis ( )

Aphrodite ( )

Hermes ( )

Ares ( )

Hephaestus ( )

Hestia (                      )

8. “Lesser Gods of Olympus”

Briefly identify each of the following:

Eros (                      )

Hebe

Iris

The Graces

The Muses

9. “Gods of the Waters”

Briefly identify each of the following:

Ocean

Triton

Proteus

Naiads

10. “The Underworld”

Briefly identify each of the following:

Persephone

Tartarus

Erebus

Charon

Cerberus

Styx

Lethe

The Furies

## **Chapter II / The Two Great Gods of Earth**

1. Summarize the story of Demeter and Persephone.

2. List 5 important details about Dionysus.

3. Describe his early worship.

4. What were the Eleusinian Mysteries?

### **Chapter III / How the World and Mankind Were Created**

1. Summarize the Greeks' story of the creation of the world.

2. What were the first races of man?

3. Describe the five races of man.

4. Summarize the story of Pandora.

5. Summarize the story of Prometheus.

6. Summarize the story of Deucalion and Pyrrha.

#### **Chapter IV / The Earliest Heroes**

1. Hera was a jealous one. After Argus was put to sleep by Pan she took all of his eyes. What did she do with them?

2. Who was Io's descendant?

3. Zeus changed into what and took Europa where?

4. All of the Giants had been banished except which ones?

5. Narcissus derived pleasure from doing what?

6. What was the fate of Hyacinth?

7. How was Echo unjustly punished?

8. Explain the flowery resurrection of Adonis.

#### **Part Two: Stories of Love and Adventure**

##### **Chapter I / Cupid and Psyche**

1. To whom did Venus turn to assist her against Psyche's beauty?

2. After Psyche had looked on Cupid, which she had been forbidden to do, she sought Venus to offer herself to her as her servant. How did Venus train her?

3. What was finally Psyche's fate?

## **Chapter II / Eight Brief Tales of Lovers**

1. The death of what two young lovers caused the white mulberries to turn red?

2. Briefly tell their story.

3. Who was the greatest mortal musician?

4. How did his wife Eurydice die?

5. What was the one condition Pluto gave him when he finally succeeded in being able to take her from the underworld?

6. What happened?

7. Who was Pygmalion?

8. What did Venus do in answer to his prayer?

## **Chapter III / The Quest of the Golden Fleece**

1. Summarize the story of Jason and the Golden Fleece.



## **Chapter IV / Four Great Adventures**

Briefly summarize the stories of:

1. Phaethon

2. Pegasus and Bellerephon

3. Otus and Ephialtes

4. Daedalus

## **Part Three: The Great Heroes Before the Trojan War**

Briefly summarize the stories of:

1. Perseus

2. Theseus

3. Hercules

4. Atalanta

## **Part Four: The Heroes of the Trojan War**

### **Chapter I / The Trojan War**

1. What was the cause of the long and famous Trojan War?
2. How did the goddess of Discord, Eris, cause trouble?
3. Who was the fairest woman in the world? To whom was she married?
4. Who were the king and queen of Troy?
5. Who were destined to die in battle?
6. What saved Paris when he faced Menelaus in combat?
7. With Achilles gone, who were the two greatest champions on the Greek side?
8. Who killed Hector?
9. Who finally got Hector's body for burial?

### **Chapter II / The Fall of Troy**

1. In her attempt to make Achilles invulnerable, what had his mother done when she dipped him in the River Styx?
2. Who shot him and who got his armor?
3. What did Ajax do as a result of his defeat to get the arms?
4. What trick was devised to get the Greeks into Troy?
5. What became of the woman whose face "launched a thousand ships"?
6. What was Troy's last sacrifice?